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title: Issue regarding laying of GAIL pipleline in the state of Tamil Nadu.

SHRI P.R. SUNDARAM (NAMAKKAL): Madam Speaker, I rise to seek the intervention of the hon. Prime Minister on the issue of laying of GAIL pipeline in the State of Tamil Nadu. The proposed gas pipeline project of GAIL along the present proposed line would lead to huge damage to agricultural lands in Coimbatore, Tiruppur, Namakkal, Erode, Salem, Dharamapuri and Krishnagiri Districts of Tamil Nadu. Recent amendments to the Right of Use under the Petroleum and Minerals Pipelines (Acquisition of Rights of User in Land) Act, 1962, have made farmers vulnerable to legal action for any kind of damage to the pipeline, even if the damage occurred without the knowledge of farmers.

In this connection, our hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu *Puratchi Thalaivi Amma* has already urged the Government to resolve this matter by laying the pipeline along the National Highways, the same way as it was done in Kerala. The Government of Tamil Nadu has already constituted an Expert Committee to examine the feasibility to lay the pipeline along the National Highways without affecting the livelihood of the farmers.

Therefore, I would like to urge upon the hon. Prime Minister to direct Gas Authority of India Limited not to act upon the said Notifications pending final decision on the matter and to join the Expert Committee constituted by the Government of Tamil Nadu to find a mutually acceptable solution.

HON. SPEAKER:

Shrimati V. Sathyabama is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri P.R. Sundaram.